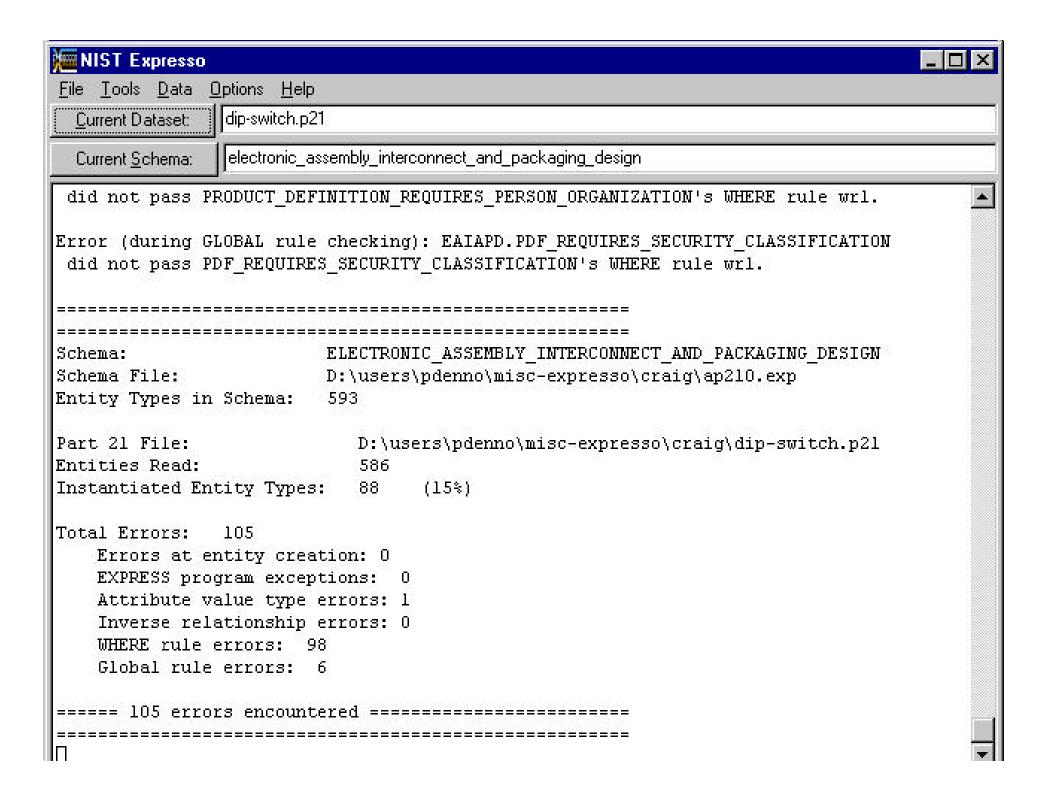
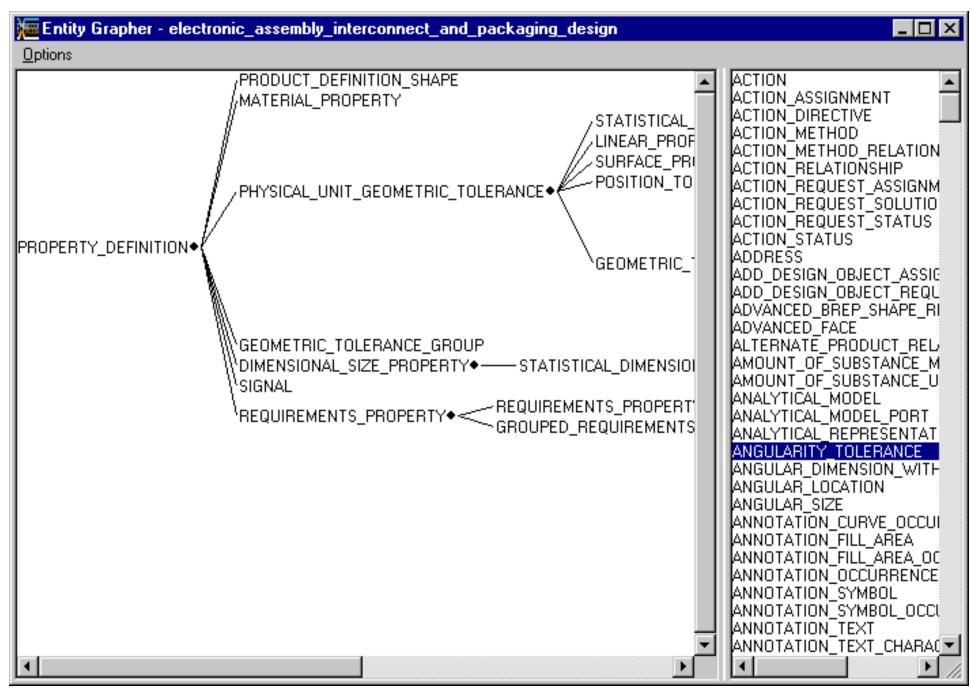
Expresso Model Validation and Transformation

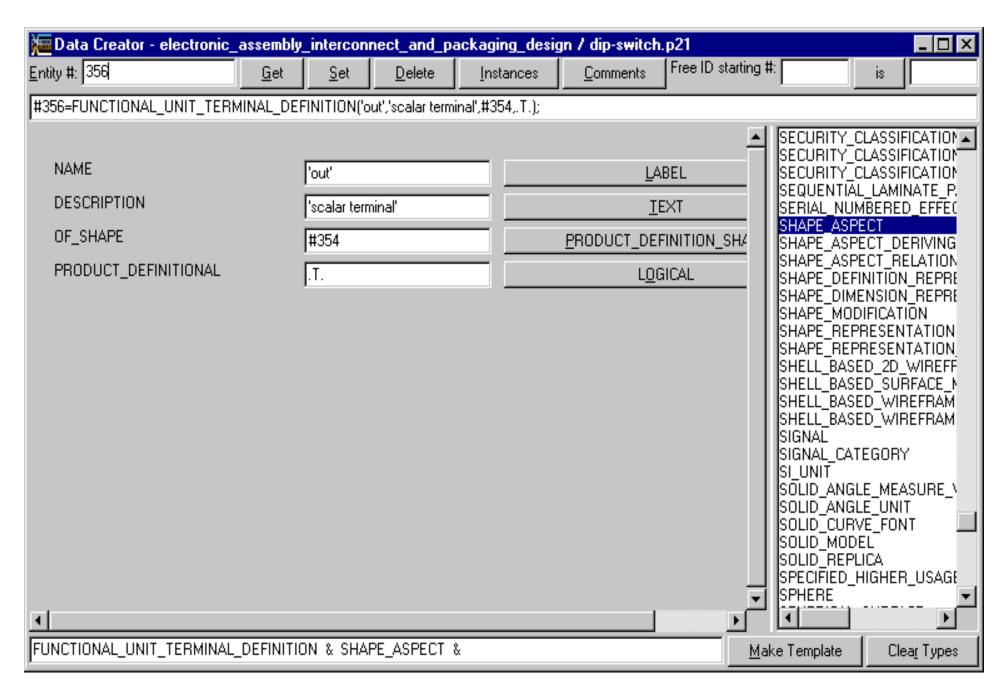
Peter Denno National Institute of Standards and Technology Manufacturing Engineering Laboratory

Expresso: What is it?

- Public domain software developed at NIST
- EXPRESS information model validation tool.
- Information mapping tool based on Express-X
- Core software for projects in testing, validation, and information mapping.
- Implements nearly all of EXPRESS including evaluation of expressions in rules against a data population.
- Reads EXPRESS and dynamically generates class definitions and programs representing the EXPRESS constraints.







Information Model Validation

- An EXPRESS schema defines the domain of valid data.
- Data communicates desired behavior
- STEP schemas do not define many geometric constraints
- Constraints may specify
 - the domain of values of an attribute;
 - a relationship among attributes of an instance
 - the valid compositions of type
 - the requirement for the existence of a relationship
 - the uniqueness of some combination of instance attributes
 - a requirement for the presence or absence of a pattern or network that might involve several entity instances.

Express-X Information Mapping

- Express-X: a structural data mapping language.
- Allows the specification of the relationship between models.
 - Without adding to information content
- Two conformance classes
 - Viewing, Schema to Schema mapping
- Uses of mapping:
 - Translation (file to file)
 - Viewing (information gathering)
 - Object instance synthesis
 - Schema/Repository level data integration and file synthesis
 - STEP mapping table documentation

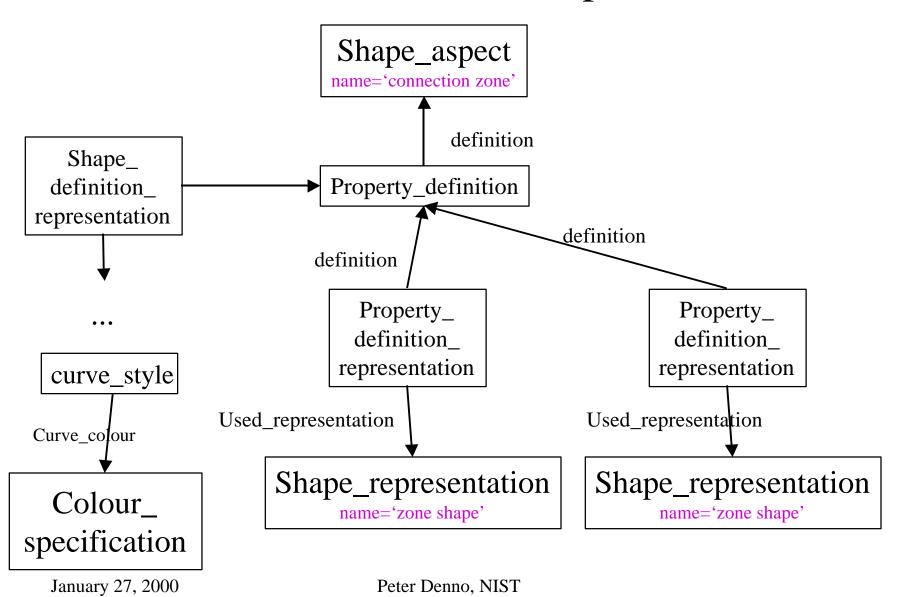
Mapping Engine, Mapping Specification

- The mapping engine and mapping specification are separate entities. This approach has its advantages:
 - Software reuse
 - The specification is documentation
 - Opportunities for dynamic mapping specification
- These advantages extend to other mapping approaches also (e.g. mapping meta-model).

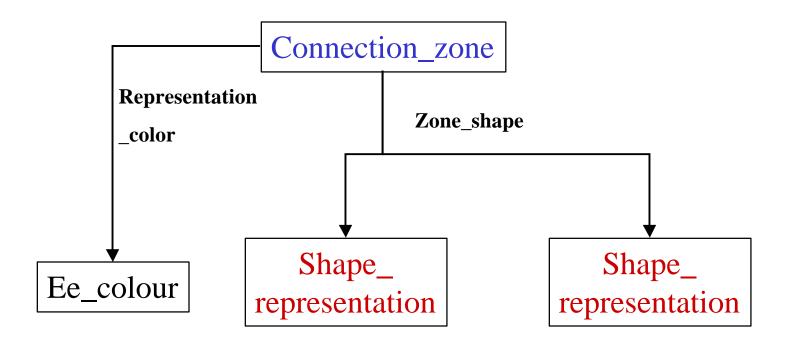
Mapping Example

AP210 ARM Object: Connection_zone to AP210 AIM Entities

AIM Instance Graph



ARM Instance Graph



Mapping From One Connection Zone to Multiple Property_definition_representations

```
MAP arm_connection_zone_shapes AS

pdr: LIST [0:?] OF aim.property_definition_representation;

FROM cz: arm.connection_zone;

FOR EACH shape IN cz.zone_shape INDEXING i;

SELECT

pdr[i].used_representation := sr@arm_zone_shape(shape);

pdr[i].definition := pd@arm_connection_zone(cz);

END_MAP; -- connection_zone_shapes
```

Shape_representation Called for in Previous Explicit Binding

```
MAP arm_zone_shape AS
 sr : aim.shape_representation;
 rc: aim.representation_context;
FROM
 asr: arm.shape_representation;
SELECT
 rc.context_identifier := '';
 rc.context_type := '';
 sr.name := 'zone shape';
 sr.context_of_items := rc;
END_MAP; -- arm_cz_zone_shape
```

Map of Connection_zone to Shape_aspect and Ancillary Entities

```
MAP arm_connection_zone AS
sa : aim.shape_aspect;
pd : aim.property_definition;
pdr : aim.property_definition_representation;
rc : aim.representation_context;
rep : aim.representation;
FROM cz : arm.connection_zone;
...
END_MAP;
```

Current and Possible Future Implementation Work

- Continue to track and implement Express-X
- PDM Enablers interface
- "EXPRESS-free" validation tool for STEP schema
- EXPRESS amendment, EXPRESS 2
- More compile time EXPRESS schema checking
- Short-form schema capability

Expresso Availability

- Http://www.nist.gov/expresso
 - Windows 95/NT
 - Solaris Command Line Version
 - Linux?